

**K6YQT**

PAARA NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 50 NUMBER 9 September 2001

**W6OTX**

# PAARAgraphs



Celebrating 64 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937  
Newsletter for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.



## CALENDAR

September...7, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30  
Menlo Park Recreation Center  
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

September.12, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30  
Red Cross Bld., 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto

October.....5, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30

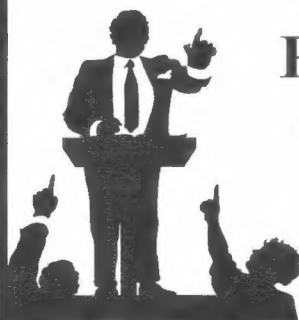
October.....10, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30

November....2, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30

November...7, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30

2 m CODE PRACTICE, 2000 to 2030 PST Tues  
N6NFI 145.23 repeater

Also try 7.100 for 24 hr code practice



## PROGRAM

September 7, 2001  
7:30 P.M.

**Speaker:**

**Roy Rusin, W6II**

**"Hardware"**

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball

at Su Hong Restaurant, 1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

Food will be served at 6:00 sharp, so guests will be on time for the PAARA meeting.  
Those arriving late will be responsible for their own order and bill.

—PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening at 8:30 P.M., local time—  
on the 145.230 -600 MHz repeater, PL tone off



## Stop the Encroachments!

The ARRL has called on the FCC to put an end to commercial encroachment on amateur allocations at 2.3 and 2.4 GHz. The League included the request in its reply comments, filed August 16, on a petition by AeroAstro to share co-primary status with the Amateur Service at 2300 to 2305 MHz. The ARRL reiterated its stance that the company's petition represents "a Trojan Horse" and that there is no way that Amateur Radio and AeroAstro's position monitoring system could share the same spectrum.

"It is time for the Commission to stop those encroachments, because they have gone too far already," the ARRL said.

The League said AeroAstro's petition for a commercial Miscellaneous Wireless Communication Service allocation at 2300 to 2305 MHz not only would impose "preclusive operating conditions" on hams but represents "yet another in the continuing series of encroachments" into amateur allocations between 2300 and 2450 MHz. The ARRL asserted that AeroAstro has failed to back up its claim that hams and low-power commercial operations can share the band on a co-primary basis without interfering with each other. An interference study prepared by the ARRL Lab and attached to the

(Continued on page 78) Encroachments

## Hardware---The New, the Novel and the Cool

HRO's local representative **Roy Rusin, W6II**, will demonstrate the latest and coolest of ham gear, starting with the HOT new Kenwood TH-F6A FM Tribander HT (lets hope Kenwood ships on time); the ICOM IC R3 all mode communications receiver including a demonstration of 900 Mhz wide band FM television transmission from a R/C airplane; plus the radio everybody is talking about and should own, the YEASU FT 817 Multiband, Multimode Portable Transceiver--and lots more. Roy's expert knowledge gained from years of hamming and working at HRO guarantees a professional and informative evening. And--- guess what's up for the lottery?

-VP Dick Kors, KM6EP

## Miscellaneous Dates

**Flea Market at Foothill** (info: <<http://www.electronicfleamarket.com>>)

**SEE PAGE 73**

### PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,  
contact: Andreas Junge N6NU.....(650) 233 0843

### FARS Foothills Amateur Radio Society

meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month,  
contact: Sheldon Edelman N6RD, 650-858 2176, [n6rd@earthlink.net](mailto:n6rd@earthlink.net)

### NCDXC Northern California DX Club

meets 2nd Friday 7:30 each month, repeater for member info 147.360, Thur 8:00PM,  
contact: Bob Mammarella KB6FEC 408 729 1544.

### NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

meets 1st Sunday each month,  
contact: Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd., Sacramento, CA 95821.

### Perham Foundation,

contact: (408) 734 4453.

### SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz, [www.specsnet.org](http://www.specsnet.org)  
contact: Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441 [specs@svpal.org](mailto:specs@svpal.org)

### SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall.  
Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.  
contact:

### SCCARRA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU repeater 146.385+ Nets: 2m, W6UU, 7:30 Mon; 10m, 28.385, 8:00 Thur. meets 2nd Mon each month.  
contact: Jack Ruckman AC6FU

### SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates WB6ADZ repeater (146.115 MHz+)  
contact: Lou Stier WA6QYS 408 241 7999

### WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2  
meets 3rd Wed every month.  
contact: Glen Lokke Jr. KE6NBO at 408 971 8626, or [gllokke@pacbell.net](mailto:gllokke@pacbell.net)

### Disaster Services,

**PALO ALTO CHAPTER,** American Red Cross, [www.paarc.org](http://www.paarc.org)

400 Mitchell Lane  
Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM,  
HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR Gateway, NASA satellite.  
contact: Mac Millian 650-688-0423. [MACM@paarc.org](mailto:MACM@paarc.org)

**SAN JOSE CHAPTER,** American Red Cross

contact: Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924, [FSHENSLEY@NOVELL.COM](mailto:FSHENSLEY@NOVELL.COM)

### VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 10:30AM, 145.23- PL=100Hz

Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room  
1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA  
contact: Al WB6IMX@att.net.

### Swap meet, LosPositas College, Livermore, 1st Sunday each month.

Contact: Cliff Kibbe (209) 835 6715 or Eliot Ross (925) 606 7710

(please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor: [k6uro@arrrl.net](mailto:k6uro@arrrl.net))

### Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

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Gerry Tucker, N6NV (650) 326 4908 '01  
Pat Gormley, KB6HJM (650) 369 3550 '02

(see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

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**PAARAgaphs e-mail address: [k6uro@arrrl.net](mailto:k6uro@arrrl.net)**

**Submit material for PAARAgaphs by the 15th**

**PAARA Website <http://www.qsl.net/paara/>**

## Contest Calendar

~Vic Black, AB6SO~

(for rules and exchanges, see [www.contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com))

September, 2001

1,2 All Asian DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 1 - 2400Z, Sep 2  
1 CCCC Contest (23 Hz RTTY) 0000Z - 2359Z, Sep 1  
1,2 IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB 1300Z, Sep 1 - 1300Z, Sep 2  
3,4 MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint 2300Z, Sep 3 - 0300Z, Sep 4  
8,9 WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 8 - 2359Z, Sep 9  
8,9 SLP Competition (SWL) 0000Z, Sep 8 - 2400Z, Sep 9  
8-10 ARRL September VHF QSO Party 1800Z, Sep 8 - 0300Z, Sep 10  
9 North American Sprint, CW 0000Z - 0400Z, Sep 9  
9 ARCI End of Summer PSK31 Sprint 2000Z - 2400Z, Sep 9  
14-16 YLRL Howdy Days 1400Z, Sep 14 - 0200Z, Sep 16  
14 AGB NEMIGA Contest 2100Z - 2300Z, Sep 14  
15,16 Air Force Anniversary QSO Party 0001Z, Sep 15 - 2359Z, Sep 16  
15,16 ARRL 10 GHz Cumulative Contest 0800 local - 2000 local, Sep 15 and 0800 local - 2000 local, Sep 16  
15,16 Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW 1200Z, Sep 15 - 1200Z, Sep 16  
15,16 Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 15 - 0700Z, Sep 16 & 1600Z, Sep 16  
16 North American Sprint, SSB 0000Z - 0400Z, Sep 16  
16,17 Tennessee QSO Party 1800Z, Sep 16 - 0100Z, Sep 17  
22,23 SLP Competition (SWL) 0000Z, Sep 22 - 2400Z, Sep 23  
22,23 Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB 1200Z, Sep 22 - 1200Z, Sep 23  
23 Panama Anniversary Contest 1200Z - 2359Z, Sep 23  
29,30 CQ/RJ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Sep 29 - 2400Z, Sep 30  
29,30 ARCI Fall QSO Party 1200Z, Sep 29 - 2400Z, Sep 30  
29,30 Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 29 - 0200Z, Sep 30 and 1400Z - 2000Z, Sep 30  
29,30 Louisiana QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 29 - 0200Z, Sep 30 and 1400Z - 2000Z, Sep 30  
29,30 Anatolian DX Contest 1600Z, Sep 29 - 2400Z, Sep 30

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball

**QSO Sept 7th**  
**gab & gobble**

Food will be served at 6:00 sharp, so guests will be on time for the PAARA meeting. Those arriving late will be responsible for their own order and bill.

**6 pm— at Su Hong Restau-  
rant**

**1039 El Camino Real  
Menlo Park**

—across from Kepler's Book Store—





## ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT  
August 14, 2001

To all radio amateurs:

SB QST ARL ARLB033 ARLB033 FCC Invites

### Comments on ARRL's 60-Meter Petition

The FCC has begun accepting comments on the ARRL's petition seeking the allocation of 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis. The Commission put the proposal on public notice this week and assigned a rulemaking number, RM-10209, to the proceeding.

Interested parties may comment on the proposal via the Internet or e-mail using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (EFCS), information on which can be found at <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. Those commenting should reference "RM-10209" in their postings. Even if the FCC eventually okays the petition, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

In its petition, the ARRL told the FCC that the new band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters, particularly for emergency communications during hurricanes and severe weather emergencies. The ARRL also said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40.

The ARRL has proposed that General class and higher amateurs be permitted to operate CW, phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed. If allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with—and accept interference from—current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters.

The ARRL said that its successful WA2XSY experimental operation between 1999 and this year demonstrates that amateur stations can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths.

*"I still find each day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read and all the friends I want to see." --- John Burroughs, 1837-1921*

#### Up Grade:

KG6ELY Ron Chester  
Extra Class August 4, 2001

#### New Callsign:

Jim Rice KG6EDP is now K6AK.

#### New Address:

Charlie Grandjean WD6FAF  
94-420 Kuahui St.  
Waipahu, HI 96797-4532



## PAARA PONDERINGS

de VIC BLACK, AB6SO

Here is some up to date disinformation to brighten your day. Henry Freedenberg N5HF of Tallahassee, FL noted that the new Indonesian President is a woman named Megawati. Hoping not to be considered politically incorrect, he jokingly posed the question, "Maybe her kids are named Milliwati"? Bam YB0KO from Indonesia replied, "Don't worry. That kind of joke will do no harm for us on the other side of the globe, hi, hi! In Bahasa Indonesian, Mega means cloud, and the suffix wati indicates female. (example: warta=news; wartawan=journalist, wartawati=female journalist). She is the daughter of Soekarno, the first President of the Republic (1945-1965), who always referred to natural phenomena in naming his children. So, Mega's brothers are Guntur (thunder), Guruh (also means thunder), Bayu (wind), Taufan (cyclone), etc." So now you know, compliments of Amateur Radio.

The Northern Arizona DX Association has asked us to remind everyone of their Special Event to be held September 8 through 16 to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the famed Route 66 highway. Ten stations with 1 x 1 callsigns W6A through W6J will be active during that time. Attractive certificates are available for working at least one of the Special Event stations. Each station will also issue QSL cards. Endorsements on the Certificates are available for each 1 x 1 station worked or any mobile stations that were on Route 66 when you worked them. If you're on Route 66 in a place like San Bernardino, Barstow or a short side trip to Roy's Café in Amboy, for instance, you too, can participate by signing "mobile 66" on phone or "/m66" on CW after your callsign. This is your chance to be on the receiving end of a pile up if you're there; last year the stations racked up more than 14,000 contacts. The highway achieved legendary status as the main migration route during the 30's and 40's for people headed for California. It winds from Chicago through Springfield IL, St. Louis and Joplin MO, Tulsa and Oklahoma City OK, Amarillo TX, Albuquerque and Santa Fe NM, Flagstaff and Kingman AZ. In California it passes through Needles, Amboy, Ludlow, Barstow, Victorville, San Bernardino and ends in Santa Monica. Special Event stations will operate on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters CW and SSB (CW only on 30). There's more information available at <http://www.nadxa.org>.

#### Updates on the WVARA section:

For the repeater sentence: (change in 440 frequency)  
"Operates W6PIY repeater 147.39, 223.96, 441.35, 1286.2"

For the contact info:

Dean Wood N6DE: [president@wvara.org](mailto:president@wvara.org)



## WEB WANDERINGS

de Vic Black, AB6SO

This month marks Web Wanderings number 48, or four years worth of Wanderings. The intention of Wanderings is to help you find informative and enjoyable web sites without spending a lot of unproductive time searching. Amateur Radio operators

are some of the most generous users of the Internet and often share knowledge and software that would cost a lot of money if it were available commercially. Many web sites visited earlier have left the Internet, but many still remain and have been improved. Still other new ones have appeared and offer to share new technologies with us. The next one we'll visit is a commercial site, but you may find it entertaining.

On April 30, 2001 **Dennis Tito KG6FZX** became history's first civilian space tourist when he visited the International Space Station. You may have wondered how an individual could approach the Russian Space Agency about tourist rides on their space shuttles. Actually, he didn't. There's a space travel agency that made the arrangements for him. The same company can arrange adventures for you such as an Orbital Spaceflight to the ISS complete with several months of training and preparation. The \$20,000,000 tourist class bargain fare, just like Tito's, includes zero gravity training, Soyuz simulator classes, high-speed centrifuge training and a cram course in the Russian language to prepare you to participate more fully in the adventure.

If this seems a bit ambitious and costly, you may opt for a Sub Orbital Space Flight instead. This one comes complete with 4 days of preflight preparation and zero gravity training to prepare you for flight at 100 kilometers altitude in a rocket plane. Become an official civilian Astronaut! This represents an economy entry level Astronaut route.

You can also plan an exciting High Altitude, High Speed Flight in a Foxbat MiG 25, which is the fastest (acknowledged) jet aircraft currently flying since the SR-71 Blackbird was retired from service. Foxbat was built to chase B-70s (never deployed) and SR-71s and easily reaches Mach 3.2 at 114,000 feet in less than four minutes from take off. If you're not quite ready for that, you can go instead for an afternoon zero gravity flight just like the astronauts do in training.

For those who prefer to stay on the ground, there are terrestrial adventures to Antarctica. Follow in the footsteps of **Ron Ross KE6JAB** who talked to PAARA twice about his expeditions to Antarctica. Other adventures awaiting you include a visit to the Arizona meteor crater where NASA trained astronauts for moon walks (actually, you can drive there yourself, as I did, and save the travel agency fee). Shuttle Launch Tours, Astronaut Tours, Rocketry launch weekends (tip: drive to Gerlach NV and turn right), and neutral buoyancy training at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center at Star City are also offered. If you negotiate hard

enough, you can probably turn any one of these adventures into a mini-DXpedition just as Air Force Colonel and NASA Astronaut **Susan Helms KC7NHZ** did when she became the first Amateur in history to work Field Day from space. Go to <http://www.spaceadventures.com/> for details about these trips of a lifetime. Sorry, no flights are available for civilians to the moon yet, even though many, many years ago Pan Am Airways took reservations for such flights.

Meanwhile, plans are afoot for the launch of a new Amateur Radio satellite. This one's unique in that it will be APRS enabled. **Bob Bruninga WB4APR**, reports that the new satellite, PCSat, will probably launch in September. It will allow you to send and receive packet messages and report your position from anywhere in the world using a shirt pocket portable packet station. The satellite is optimized for 1200 or 9600 baud packet messages sent from handhelds or mobile rigs operating into omni directional antennas. Web sites to visit include <http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/pcsat.html>, <http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/astars.html> and <http://www.aprs.net> for more information.

Credibility is high for this launch. PCSat was designed and built by students from the 1999-2001 classes of the US Naval Academy under the guidance of the creator of APRS, **Robert Bruninga, WB4APR**, (Commander, USN, retired) and currently Operations Officer/Engineer of the Naval Academy Satellite Ground Station. This marks the first time a satellite will be capable of indicating its current location to listeners via APRS as well as serving as a worldwide position reporting and message communications satellite for APRS users on the ground. Although students are doing the electronics, structural, thermal, and mechanical design, as well as taking responsibility for all payload integration issues, the project is funded by the Naval Academy, and a grant from Boeing Corporation. The launch has been assured through the Department of Defense Space Test Program in cooperation with NASA. Launch will be from Kodiak Island, Alaska.

The next time you work a new DX country check the World Factbook published by the Central Intelligence Agency. Go to <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook> and click on Country Listing for a quick route to any country you want to investigate. The book discusses each country's historical background along with a map, physical geography, population statistics, government, economy, communications, transportation, military and transnational issues. Information is quite detailed. It's interesting to discover how many telephones or cell phones are in use or how many AM, FM and TV stations are in each country. The listings even reveal the total number of radio and TV receivers in each country. In addition to highlighting individual countries, there are about 20 regional maps from various parts of the world. I like to see how really tiny some of the countries are. Some actual European countries (I'm not making this up) are Andorra (12 x 15 miles), Malta (6 x 18 miles), San Marino (4 x 6 miles), Liechtenstein (3 x 9 miles) and Monaco ((1 x 2 miles). Luxembourg is relatively large at about 10 x 30 miles. No wonder it's difficult to work them.

*(Continued on page 79) Web Wanderings*





## GOOD OLD STUFF

### Who was Hiram Percy Maxim?

by Vic Black AB6SO

Most US Amateur Radio operators know that

**Hiram Percy Maxim W1AW**, who called himself T.O.M., or The Old Man, co-founded the American Radio Relay League. But why is he always referred to as Hiram Percy and not just Hiram?

Maxim was a member of a family of New England inventors. His father, Hiram Stevens Maxim (later Sir Maxim), 1840-1916, was born near Sangerville, Maine. The elder Maxim started his career as a coachbuilder in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. While employed at the coach and engineering works, he took out numerous patents. Before his death he had patents for carbon filaments for electric lamps, gas appliances, a flying machine, smokeless powder, a mousetrap, a pneumatic gun and a delayed action fuse. His most famous invention came after a friend he met at the Paris Electrical Exhibition told him that he could make a lot of money if he could invent "something that will enable these Europeans to cut each other's throats with greater facility."

At the time, the fastest firing, most advanced, automatic rifle was the Gatling Gun, invented during the Civil War by Dr. Richard Jordan Gatling. It saw limited use during the Civil War (fewer than 2 dozen were ordered), but nevertheless it was the first true machine gun proven in warfare. It was later perfected during the Indian Wars in the Western USA. The gun had a hand-cranked turret with cartridges gravity fed into 6 barrels revolving around a shaft. Each barrel fired 100 rounds per minute. Six barrels were chosen so that each barrel could partially cool before firing again. The guns were quite large and were mounted on horse drawn caissons. A modern, extremely high rate of fire, radar-aimed Gatling gun, the Phalanx, is still used to defend aircraft carriers by demolishing incoming missiles in flight.

In 1881 Hiram Maxim moved to England to start work on a more efficient machine gun than the Gatling Gun. Within three years, his new design became the world's first portable, truly automatic machine gun. By harnessing the energy of each bullet's recoil, the gun's action would eject the spent cartridge, load the next cartridge and fire it. Cartridges were mounted on belts and an entire belt could be fired before reloading. The gun first saw action in the Matabele War during 1893 and 1894 when fifty police officers of the British colonial forces armed with four Maxim guns held off 5,000

Matabele warriors in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe).

Each gun had the firepower of about 100 repeating rifles and could fire 500 rounds per minute. The British Army adopted the British .303 caliber Maxim in 1889. Within a year his guns were in use by the Austrian, German, Italian, Swiss and Russian armies. After Vickers bought the design in 1896, Maxim became a British citizen in 1900 and was knighted in 1901. The Russian Pulemyo Maxima and the German Army's Maschinengewehr were based on the Maxim design and were used extensively in the First World War. Although the British Army used the design for over 70 years, they gradually began to transfer their interest to the lighter weight Lewis Gun and Vickers Gun, a Maxim derivative used extensively on WWI fighter aircraft, while several minor European armies continued use of the original Maxim Gun. In the US the Maxim Gun inspired John Moses Browning to invent the Browning Automatic Rifle as well as the Browning Light Machine Gun.

Hudson, 1853-1927, Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim's brother, was born in Orneville, Maine. Hudson was trained as a chemist and is best known for munitions related inventions, including Maximite a high explosive, Stabilite a smokeless powder and Motorite a torpedo propellant.

Sir Hiram's son, Hiram Percy Maxim, was born September 2, 1896 in Brooklyn, NY and died at the age 40 in 1936. His education was ensured by the family fortune accumulated by his father and uncle. He graduated with a diploma in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An inventor and industrialist, his designs included a silencer for explosive weapons in 1908 and silencers for gasoline

engines as well as an automobile, the 1898 Columbia Mark VIII. The Columbia is considered by many automotive engineers as one of the most influential car designs of all time since it established the basic layout for all cars to follow. Before that time, cars usually had the driver sitting in the middle of the front steering by a tiller, much like a sailboat tiller. Engines were rear mounted with chain drive to the wheels somewhat like a hybrid of 4-wheeled bicycles and horse drawn carts. Maxim's design featured a front mounted engine behind a water-cooled radiator, a left hand drive steering wheel, and a sliding gear transmission with a clutch attached by a drive shaft to the wheels.

Maxim, W1AW, is now known as the kindly and friendly "Father of Amateur Radio" after co-founding the ARRL in May, 1914 just two years after the US government began licensing Amateurs. Besides founding the ARRL, his best-known radio related inventions were the Wouff Hong and the Rettsynitch, used to self-police the Amateur Radio airwaves.





## Pacific Division Update

### Amateur Spectrum Protection Act of 2001 Introduced in US House and Senate.

On March 1 the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2001 was introduced into the US House of Representatives. Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida introduced the bill, noted H.R.817. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, visited the Congressman's office to thank him personally for his continuing interest in protecting amateur allocations. The House measure has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Sen. Michael Crapo of Idaho introduced the Senate version of the bill, denoted S.549, on March 15. Sen. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii was a cosponsor. The bill has been referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. In introducing the Senate measure again this year, Crapo and Akaka referred to the importance of Amateur Radio in providing communication in times of disaster. S.549 is identical in its wording to H.R.817. If approved by both chambers and signed by President George W. Bush, the Spectrum Protection Act would require the FCC to provide equivalent replacement spectrum should it ever reallocate primary Amateur Radio spectrum to another service. The same requirement would apply if the FCC acted to diminish any secondary amateur allocations or to make additional allocations in ham bands that diminish their utility. More information on the Spectrum Protection Act, including the full text of the bills, is available on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>> . In order to have a chance of passage, your Representatives and Senators must know that you support the bill. Please write! Following is a sample letter, written by Brad, K6WR, that you may find useful as a guideline. When writing, be sure you make the appropriate changes to the bill's number and sponsors, as shown below! To: (your Representative's/Senator's name and address) Dear (Representative/Senator) (Name) As one of the nation's more than 650,000 licensed Amateur Radio operators, I urge you to sign on as a cosponsor to ( "HR 817 " if writing to your Representative, "S.549 " if writing to your Senator), the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2001. This bill, introduced by ( "Representative Bilirakis of Florida on March 1, 2001 " if writing to your Representative, "Senators Crapo and Akaka " if writing to your Senator), is a non-partisan, non-controversial measure designed to afford a measure of protection to Amateur Radio frequencies used by radio amateurs in California and elsewhere to provide emergency communication, technical experimentation and recreation. The bill would require the Federal Communications Commission to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum " in the event it becomes necessary to reallocate radio frequencies currently allocated to the Amateur Service. This is a matter of fairness, and is in the national interest. The bill would help ensure Amateur Radio's continued public ser-

vice role to the people of the State of California. Sincerely, (Your name and address, including email address) HR 817 cosponsors as of Aug. 15, 2001: 34, three of whom, John T. Doolittle (CA4th), Fortney Pete Stark (CA-13th), Sam Farr (CA-17th) are from the Pacific Division. S.549: 7 cosponsors as of Aug. 15, 2001, one of which, Daniel Akaka (HI-2nd), is from the Pacific



*Video frame captured from KM6EP R/C Air Mobile transmitting on 900Mz @ 0.600 mw in FM video mode.  
 -VP Dick Kors, KM6EP*

## Flea Market Dates September 8 PAARA

*(Continued from page 73) Encroachments*

League's comments predicts "intolerable" interference, especially to weak signals, if the AeroAstro petition were granted.

ARRL has petitioned to elevate the Amateur Service from secondary to primary status on the band and requested that no commercial operations be introduced. AeroAstro seeks co-primary status with the Amateur Service to accommodate its Satellite Enabled Notification System (SENS) position-monitoring system under MWCS rules. The FCC put both petitions on public notice last month, and both parties filed comments earlier this month. There is no primary occupant at 2300-2305 MHz.

The League asked the FCC to dismiss the AeroAstro petition as defective and to grant the League's petition for primary amateur status at 2300 to 2305 MHz.

A copy of ARRL's reply comments are available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-10166/rm-10166-reply.html> NNNN -0400 Received: (qmail 21832 invoked by uid 501); 17 Aug 2001 20:43:05 -0000 Message-ID: <20010817204305.21831.qmail@mailers.remote.arrl.org> Subject: ARLB034 ARRL to FCC: Stop the Encroachments! To: wmporner@aol.com From: "ARRL Web site" <memberlist@www.arrl.org> Date: Fri, 17 Aug 2001 15:31:15 EDT CC: Subscribed ARRL Members ;

(Continued from page 76) Web Wanderings

There are more Amateur licensees in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties than total population in some of those countries.

**William Hepburn**, professional meteorologist with Environment Canada, maintains an impressive web site "William Hepburn's VHF/UHF Tropospheric Ducting Forecast" at <[http://www.iprimus.ca/~hepburnw/tropo\\_wam.html](http://www.iprimus.ca/~hepburnw/tropo_wam.html)> for predicting tropo ducting conditions. Choose the map marked Wm No America for an impressive color-coded ducting prediction map. Nine colors represent various steps in the "Hepburn Tropo Index" with conditions shown from Marginal through Extreme. The caption explains, "The areas noted in the forecast have the necessary atmospheric conditions to produce tropospheric bending of UHF or VHF TV and radio waves." There are maps for most areas of the world and links to maps for meteor scatter, maximum usable frequency (MUF) and sporadic-E. Hepburn has been a member of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association for approximately 25 years and tries for new reception distance records from Europe to his home in Eastern Canada. For information about the DX Association, go to <<http://www.anarc.org/wtfda/whoiswtfda.htm>>.

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**Flea Market Dates**

September 8	PAARA
October 13	SJ RED CROSS

**PAARA Radio NET**  
every Monday evening  
8:30 P.M., local time  
on the 145.230 -600 MHz repeater, PL tone  
off

## SEMINAR & EXAM: AMATEUR ("HAM") RADIO

**WHAT:** Amateur Radio ("Ham") License & Communications Course for entry-level Technician & General & Extra Class

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 20, 2001; 8:30am - 5pm

**WHERE:** Foster City, CA

**FEE:** \$25.00

**SIGN UP:** Ross Peterson: 650-349-5349; [wb6zbu@arri.net](mailto:wb6zbu@arri.net)

Class size is limited, reservations are required.

Sponsored by: Foster City Police Department; Union City Police Department; The City of San Mateo, Office of Emergency Services; South County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (SCARES); San Leandro Amateur Radio Club. This course is open to the public. This one-day cram course is designed to help you obtain your Technician-Class Federal license [no Morse code] - the (EASY - 35-question, multiple-choice!) Federal exam is administered as part of the class. You can practice for the exam on the Web: <<http://www.aa9pw.com/radio/exam.html>> Once you get your FCC license, you can get free training through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) - see below.

## TRAINING FOR NEW AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

\*\*\*FREE\*\*\*

Learn how to use your radio, what radio to buy, etc.!

August 16, 2001, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

San Carlos City Hall: 666 Elm Street, San Carlos, Room 207

No license needed - just show up and learn!

More info: <[www.k6mpn.org](http://www.k6mpn.org)>

*The cloning of humans is on the list of things to worry about from Science, along with behavior control, genetic engineering, transplanted heads, computer poetry and the unrestrained growth of plastic flowers.*

Lewis Thomas

**Want and For Sale ads in PAARAgaphs**  
are FREE to members  
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**PAARA • Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association • P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911**

- Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA.
- Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 MHz repeater, PL tone off.

Membership in PAARA is \$12.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs, \$6 for additional family members (no newsletter).

Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association.

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**Webb site for propagation information:**  
[www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/)

|||||  
Korsak, Andy KR6DD  
504 Lakemead Way  
Redwood City, CA 94062-3919

[illegible]